

King County Biosolids Policies

BP-1: King County shall strive to achieve beneficial use of wastewater solids. A beneficial use can be any use that proves to be environmentally safe, economically sound, and utilizes the advantageous qualities of the material.

BP-2: Biosolids-derived products shall be used as a soil amendment in landscaping projects funded by King County.

BP-3: King County shall consider new and innovative technologies for wastewater solids processing, energy recovery, and beneficial uses brought forward by public or private interests. King County shall seek to advance the beneficial use of wastewater solids, effluent, and methane gas through research and demonstration projects.

BP-4: King County shall seek to maximize program reliability and minimize risk by one or more of the following: (1) maintaining reserve capacity to manage approximately 150 percent of projected volume of biosolids; (2) considering diverse technologies, end products, and beneficial uses; or (3) pursuing contractual protections including interlocal agreements, where appropriate.

BP-5: King County shall produce and use wastewater solids in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

BP-6: King County shall strive to produce the highest quality biosolids economically and practically achievable and shall continue efforts to reduce trace metals in biosolids consistent with 40 CFR 503 pollutant concentration levels (exceptional quality) for individual metals. The county shall continue to provide Class B biosolids and also to explore technologies that may enable the county to generate Class A biosolids cost-effectively or because they have better marketability. Future decisions about technology, transportation and distribution shall be based on marketability of biosolids products.

BP-7: When biosolids-derived products are distributed outside the wastewater service area, the county shall require that local sponsors using the products secure any permits required by the local government body.

BP-8: King County shall work cooperatively with statewide organizations on biosolids issues.

BP-9: King County shall seek to minimize the noise and odor impact associated with processing, transporting and applying of biosolids, consistent with constraints of economic and environmental considerations and giving due regard to neighboring communities.

BP-10: Where cost-effective, King County shall beneficially use methane produced at the treatment plants for energy and other purposes.

